

Dear Friends,

~ FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK ~

The young lawyer asks Jesus what he must do to inherit eternal life. The correct answer is centered on the great commandment of loving God and neighbor. When Jesus is further asked "who is my neighbor?" He replies with the story of the Good Samaritan. After He tells the story, Jesus asks the young man – who was the neighbor to the victims? The young man says "the one who treated him with mercy." Jesus then tells him: "Go and do the love whose expression is centered on mercy. Jesus' words to the young lawyer are given to us as well: "Go and do likewise."

I would like to inform you of some exciting news regarding our parish cemetery. In keeping with the Our Lady of Grace Cemetery Mission, and after a detailed review by the Cemetery Task Force, and with full support of the Finance Council, it has been decided for operational and financial reasons that burials and grounds keeping will be operated in conjunction with Pioneer Burial Vault Company. Our Lady of Grace Staff will continue to manage and operate the office (sales, burial arrangements).

The Cemetery will continue to be well maintained and efficiently operated to ensure proper continued upkeep and care. The Cemetery will remain a place that offers the sacred rite of burial to the Catholic community and all of God's people committed to the Gospel and Catholic tradition, affirming the sacredness of human life and professing the resurrection of the body and life everlasting.

I am grateful to the Cemetery Task Force members for their diligent and thorough study as well as the many hours of research and meetings needed to conduct the study. The Task Force will now be transformed into a permanent council to provide advice on more long-term planning, improvements and repairs to the cemetery.

Have a great week.

God bless,

Monsignor Prior